There had been days when neighbors had been coming to Muy on a regular basis asking her questions about her new faith in Jesus. They would tell her "We don't want to be a Christian, but tell us what it's like!" Sometimes it seemed as if she couldn't get any work done! So many people were interrupting her and taking her time asking questions about God and the Bible. Muy told us of one lady
who actually held her arm to prevent her from going to work saying "tell me everything!"

Out in the garden alone she prayed

That season of intense interest seemed to have evaporated (be careful of what you complain about). Muy found herself spending long hot days working her two large garden plots feeling like her work counted for nothing of eternal value. How could she share her faith out here in the garden working by herself? Out there in the garden alone she prayed and told God about her discouragement. The teacher that comes regularly to assess the children came just a few days later to personally invite her to share with the school group how her children have been able to make such seemingly impossible improvement.

Opportunity to tell about Jesus

Muy agreed to speak to the parents and teachers of the other handicapped children in her children's former school. She did so about 10 days ago on the 17th of June. She spoke to a group of about 60 people at the annual event to recruit new students.

A couple other people spoke first, during which everyone seemed to talk amongst themselves and not pay much attention. When Muy got up to speak she made several attempts to say what she had planned but was unable. Instead she found a freedom to share from her heart what suddenly became clear to her. She talked about how her children were improving because they were responding to her love for them. She explained that she naturally has a cold, hard and unloving heart. She didn't have interest or care about others. But as she learned about God she found He loved her, and that opened her heart as she began to really love her kids. Everyone became quiet and listened intently.

Muy knows that most parents feel ashamed to carry the stigma of giving birth to a handicapped child. The iron rule of "karma" in Thai society places blame directly on the parents for this "curse". Many parents put their handicapped children in a government institution and never look back. Many who do keep them merely do the mechanical techniques therapists tell them to do, but they certainly do not demonstrate the kind of love the children need.

Great interest aroused

grow. And that Jesus' wisdom will lead her as she reaches out to other parents and teachers of handicapped children.

Please intercede for the visiting teacher who has seen first-hand the improvements in the children. May she soon yield to this overwhelming proof of the power of God's life-transforming love. She has seen it demonstrated in the ongoing healing of these two children, and in the healing of a mother who is now pouring God's love into her children's hearts from her own heart that is being restored into the image of Christ.

S. D. Gordon on Prayer

"If there be any regrets in heaven - heaven is not supposed to have any regrets, we think of heaven as having all the regrets turned out and kept out, - and yet, if there could creep in regrets, I think there would be at least two, as we look back to the earth-life from the hills of God. One regret would be this: that we did not do more quiet praying, more claiming. I do not mean more simple repetition of religious language on our knees, but more insistent claiming, that the power of the Lord Jesus Christ shall apply here, and there, over the earth. That will be one regret, if there be regrets: that we did not ask enough, and did not ask big enough. We will say to ourselves, "What beggarly askers
When she began to talk about Jesus, a couple teachers tried to stop her. As she looked at their faces, the natural rush of angry emotions began to rise in response to the opposition of what was obviously truth, and she prayed for help. In that moment her thoughts went right to Jesus and she remembered this must be the kind of experience He had to face many times. Her heart became peaceful as she continued to speak.

Of the listeners that day half were teachers, and half were parents - but with physically handicapped children and not mentally handicapped. But Muy's children are the opposite. Their handicap is mental. It is widely believed that mentally handicapped children will never improve. This is what makes Muy's situation even more important. And that she has not one but two children who are improving in the face of these odds.

During the lunch break interested parents surrounded her asking her question after question. This was followed by a Q&A period for an hour and a half. Most all of the questions were being addressed to Muy. The teacher basically ended up interviewing her before the group. Again she was able to freely share about Jesus and how he has been teaching her to love her children in the way they need to be loved by her. She shared how in her thinking she did not train her children. She did not have time to train them. Everything has improved and she did not know what to say because she did not do very much. She let them listen to stories about God and good Christian music. It is just a miracle of God to take care of her and her children. They used to just scream. The couple words her daughter (15) said were in a scream. Now she is able to talk a little bit and says clearly, "I love you, Mom." "I miss you when you are away." The 13-year old boy says "Mom" now.

A number of the parents have come to her asking her to teach them how to work with their children. They have said, "I do not want to be a Christian, but I want to learn the good things the foreigners have taught you to do.” Many people seem to want the results without the experience.
Spam
Not spam
Forget previous vote
Encounters with Angels

By Ai Hang*, ASAP Evangelist

The local police caught me praying and worshiping with a group of new believers. They tied me up and questioned me in front of all the onlookers. When I did not answer them, they hit me over and over again with bamboo poles. Then they dragged me over to a pickup truck and threw me in the back. They drove deep into the jungle. They must have thought I would be disoriented and have no chance of survival. Around midnight they tossed me out of the truck and drove off. The sounds of the forest and the darkness made my heart race. As I lay on the forest floor, I felt warm blood running down my back. I felt half alive and half dead. Thoughts of wild animals coming to feast on my body filled my mind. I closed my eyes tightly and cried to God, “Loving Father, please save me!”

Then an amazing thing happened. My body lifted from the ground and I sensed I was flying in the air. When I opened my eyes, I looked around bewilderingly and to my surprise, I discovered that I was sitting on a familiar downtown street in my own neighborhood. “Was this a dream?” I wondered. No, it was real. I believe I was carried on angels’ wings safely home that night. I went back to sharing Jesus as soon as I could after this incident. Those who witnessed me being beaten were amazed that I survived. They wanted to know more about this God who had the power to save my life through an angel.

In another area of Vietnam, where the authorities are also unfriendly to Christians, an ethnic people group resides, called the Montagnards. The government tightly controls the travel to this restricted area. An ASAP lay pastor who attempted to enter the area was caught and warned never to return. After making a second attempt to enter this area, he disappeared never to be seen again. After this, Pastor Isah Young, leader of the SDA house church movement, realized it is too risky to send workers in there. A point was made to begin a prayer campaign for the salvation of these ethnic people and for God to open a way to reach them.

About three years later, God opened the way for a couple to enter this area by crossing the border into a neighboring country and entering from there. They came back with the following report: A tall stranger with a radiant face had appeared to some village chiefs and had given them a radio. Furthermore, he gave the village chief instructions, not only on how to use the radio, but also how to find a particular program that he encouraged them to listen. Then he disappeared. That program turned out to be ASAP’s Peace and Happiness beamed in by Adventist World Radio. The people listened to Pastor Isah Young preach the Word of God and became Sabbath-keeping believers. This happened not just to one village, but to twenty villages in that region. These people know that the stranger was an angel sent by God because of earnest prayer for the Montagnards’ salvation.

*Name has been changed and photo blurred for the protection of God’s worker.

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